

Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Claims 1-35 (canceled)

Claim 36 (currently amended): A method for the identification of a candidate pharmacological agent to be used in the treatment of AD and/or symptoms thereof, wherein said agent ~~is capable of inhibiting~~ inhibits redox-reactive metal-mediated crosslinking A β , said method comprising:

(a) obtaining a first A β sample and a second A β sample;

~~(a)~~ (b) adding a redox-reactive metal to ~~[[a]]~~ [[a]] said first A β sample;

~~(b)~~ (c) allowing said first sample to incubate for an amount of time sufficient to allow A β crosslinking;

~~(c)~~ (d) adding said redox-reactive metal to ~~[[a]]~~ [[a]] said second A β sample, said second sample additionally comprising a candidate pharmacological agent;

~~(d)~~ (e) allowing said second sample to incubate for the same amount of time as said first sample;

~~(e)~~ (f) removing an aliquot from each of said first and second samples; and

~~(f)~~ (g) determining presence or absence of crosslinking in said first and second samples, whereby an absence of A β crosslinking in said second sample as compared to said first sample indicates that said candidate pharmacological agent has inhibited A β crosslinking.

Claim 37 (currently amended): The method of claim 36, wherein at ~~(f)~~ (g), a western blot analysis is performed to determine the presence or absence of crosslinking in the first and second samples.

Claim 38 (canceled)